

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of providing variable fit for a skeletal reconstruction cage, the method comprising:

    providing a first set of central bodies, each central body having a different maximum height from one another;

    providing a second set of top end caps of variable sizes, each top end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

    providing a third set of bottom end caps of variable sizes, each bottom end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

    selecting the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap that provide preferred skeletal reconstruction cage height when coupled together, with at least one of the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap being formed of bone;

    coupling the first and second end caps to the central body to form a first skeletal reconstruction cage, with the end caps disposed on opposing ends of the central body;

wherein the combination of the maximum height of the selected top end cap and the selected bottom end cap is greater than 15% of the maximum height of the selected central body.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

    providing a fourth set of inserts of variable sizes, each insert having a different maximum height from one another;

    selecting the insert that provides preferred height when disposed in a hole in the central body;

    inserting the insert in the central body.

3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of the selected top end cap, bottom end cap, and insert are formed of bone.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the top end cap and bottom end cap are selected so that the skeletal reconstruction cage is symmetrical with respect to a central axis

of the selected central body.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the top end cap and bottom end cap are selected so that the skeletal reconstruction cage is asymmetrical with respect to a central axis of the selected central body.

6. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising: securing at least one of the selected end caps to the central body with a fastener.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising: securing at least one of the selected end caps to the central body with a pin.

8. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are disposed in transverse planes.

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are angled at about 3° with respect to each other.

10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are angled at about 6° with respect to each other.

11. (new) A method of providing variable fit for a skeletal reconstruction cage, the method comprising:

providing a first set of central bodies, each central body having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a second set of top end caps of variable sizes, each top end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a third set of bottom end caps of variable sizes, each bottom end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a fourth set of inserts of variable sizes, each insert having a different maximum height from one another;

selecting the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap that provide preferred skeletal reconstruction cage height when coupled together, with at least one of the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap being formed of bone;

selecting the insert that provides preferred height when disposed in a hole in the central body;

inserting the insert in the central body; and

coupling the first and second end caps to the central body to form a first skeletal reconstruction cage, with the end caps disposed on opposing ends of the central body.

12. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein at least one insert is formed of bone.

13. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the top end cap and bottom end cap are selected so that the skeletal reconstruction cage is symmetrical with respect to a central axis of the selected central body.

14. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the top end cap and bottom end cap are selected so that the skeletal reconstruction cage is asymmetrical with respect to a central axis of the selected central body.

15. (new) The method of claim 11, further comprising: securing at least one of the selected end caps to the central body with a fastener.

16. (new) The method of claim 11, further comprising: securing at least one of the selected end caps to the central body with a pin.

17. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are disposed in transverse planes.

18. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are angled at about 3° with respect to each other.

19. (new) The method of claim 11, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are angled at about 6° with respect to each other.

20. (new) A method of providing variable fit for a skeletal reconstruction cage, the method comprising:

providing a first set of central bodies, each central body having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a second set of top end caps of variable sizes, each top end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a third set of bottom end caps of variable sizes, each bottom end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

selecting the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap that provide preferred skeletal reconstruction cage height when coupled together, with at least one of the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap being formed of bone;

coupling the first and second end caps to the central body to form a first skeletal reconstruction cage, with the end caps disposed on opposing ends of the central body;

wherein the top end cap and bottom end cap are selected so that the skeletal reconstruction cage is asymmetrical with respect to a central axis of the selected central body.

21. (new) The method of claim 20, further comprising: securing at least one of the selected end caps to the central body with a fastener.

22. (new) The method of claim 20, further comprising: securing at least one of the selected end caps to the central body with a pin.

23. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are angled at about 3° with respect to each other.

24. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the caps are coupled to the central body so that end faces of the caps are angled at about 6° with respect to each other.

25. (new) A method of providing variable fit for a skeletal reconstruction cage, the method comprising:

providing a first set of central bodies, each central body having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a second set of top end caps of variable sizes, each top end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

providing a third set of bottom end caps of variable sizes, each bottom end cap having a different maximum height from one another;

selecting the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap that provide preferred skeletal reconstruction cage height when coupled together, with at least one of the central body, top end cap, and bottom end cap being formed of bone;

coupling the first and second end caps to the central body to form a first skeletal reconstruction cage, with the end caps disposed on opposing ends of the central body;

wherein the central body is substantially without apertures.